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3 June 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Procurement Subcommittee of the  
NSCID-16 Advisory Committee

SUBJECT: Notification of Receipt of Certain Soviet  
Bloc Literature in the United States

1. I am transmitting herewith a staff study on the above  
subject which has been approved by my Subcommittee.

25X1A9A 2. [REDACTED] has indicated to me that the problem properly  
belongs within the purview of your Subcommittee.

3. Please advise me of the action which your Subcommittee  
proposes to take in regard to the specific recommendations made  
in this study.

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[REDACTED]  
Exploitation Subcommittee

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1. PROBLEM:

To provide for the announcement of the authors and titles of Soviet Bloc scientific and technical literature currently received in the US which is or will not be otherwise covered.

2. FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM:

a. The Exploitation Subcommittee of the NSCID-16 Advisory Committee finds that intelligence analysts need to be informed as completely as practicable of the titles, authors, and location of all Soviet Bloc scientific and technical literature coming into the US. The Subcommittee deems this to be the single most important feature of a comprehensive exploitation service.

b. Various regular sources of such information already exist, covering large segments of this literature. The principal ones are the Monthly List of Russian Accessions and the East European Accessions List, published monthly by the Library of Congress. With some exceptions these provide the desired information for publications procured through State Department channels as well as those procured by USAF collection activities. The latter comes about because of the close integration of the Air Information Division with other Library of Congress functions.

c. The acquisitions of the other IAC agencies are generally announced in accessions lists of their several libraries or as information reports of transmittal from abroad. No single document analogous to the MLRA or EEAL covers these receipts.

d. Publications received by libraries, trade associates and other private organizations by direct exchange or otherwise are covered only in the MLRA and EEAL, and then only insofar as the Library of Congress has set up cooperative agreements with some twenty public and university libraries. The effectiveness of these arrangements is not known.

e. Acting at the instigation of the Exploitation Subcommittee, FDD proposes to establish a periodic publication analogous to the MLRA and EEAL which will supplement these by giving annotations for books, monographs, etc., describing the scope, level of scholarship, evaluation as a source material and function within the literature structure of the foreign country. Most of the scientific and technical literature of the Soviet Bloc which is received by the IAC agencies will be covered.

f. In addition, either the publication just described, or perhaps a separate one, will cover the translated tables of contents of most of those scientific and technical periodicals collected by the IAC agencies which for security reasons or for other reasons should not be included in the MLRA and EEAL.

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### 3. DISCUSSION:

a. It is clear from the above facts that the problem is concerned with a relatively small segment of the Soviet Bloc scientific and technical literature, principally: (1) publications acquired by the IAC agencies which cannot be made available for annotating or, if a periodical, for the translation of the table of contents; (2) acquisitions by government agencies other than the IAC and within the IAC agencies for those departments not closely integrated with intelligence; and (3) direct exchange and purchases through commercial book dealers of libraries and other private institutions.

b. Although the intelligence analyst receives notification of the availability of a portion of the publications in this limited area; at present there is no mechanism which screens these announcements (such as library accessions lists, reports of transmittal, etc.) to eliminate items about which he will be informed by the vehicles designed specifically for the purpose. Nor is there any single source of information which covers the remaining items. Moreover, fragmentary and duplicative reports of the receipt of publications which reach the analyst with his regular and voluminous information material do not receive the attention they deserve nor is the publication information readily retrievable thereafter from these scattered reports.

### 4. CONCLUSION:

The Exploitation Subcommittee finds that there is a real need for an appropriate publication which will notify the analyst as completely as practicable of the receipt in the US of the publications in the "fringe area" described herein, namely those not covered by the vehicles already existing and designed for this specific purpose or those supplementary ones which FDD proposes to initiate.

### 5. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Procurement Subcommittee of the NSCID-16 Advisory Committee take appropriate steps to provide the desired publications with particular emphasis directed towards improved notification coverage to intelligence of the Soviet Bloc scientific and technical literature received in the US by direct exchange and purchases through commercial channels.

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